

IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims as follows.

1. (Currently Amended) An integrated circuit, comprising:
 - a clock driver disposed on the integrated circuit;
 - a clock grid disposed on the integrated circuit, wherein the clock driver is disposed outside a region of the clock grid; and
 - at least one interconnect disposed without any connection to an exterior region of the clock grid, the at least one interconnect arranged to directly propagate a signal from an output of the clock driver past an exterior region of the clock grid to a connection point residing at a non-exterior region of the clock grid.
2. (Currently Amended) The integrated circuit of claim 1, wherein the connection point is positioned such that a component operatively connected to the clock grid ~~at the connection point~~ receives a signal from the clock driver ~~at~~via the connection point, where the signal ~~at the connection point~~received by the component has less skew than if the connection point was positioned at an edge of the clock grid.
3. (Previously Presented) The integrated circuit of claim 1, wherein the at least one interconnect is arranged in a wire tree configuration.
4. (Previously Presented) The integrated circuit of claim 3, wherein the wire tree

configuration is balanced.

5. (Currently Amended) A computer system, comprising:
 - an integrated circuit having a clock grid;
 - at least one clock driver that provides a clock signal to the clock grid,
 - wherein the at least one clock driver resides outside a region of the clock grid; and
 - a transmission structure disposed without any connection to an exterior region of the clock grid, the transmission structure arranged to directly propagate the clock signal from an output of the at least one clock driver ~~past an exterior region of the clock grid~~ to at least one point residing at a non-exterior region of the clock grid.
6. (Currently Amended) The computer system of claim 5, wherein the at least one point is positioned such that a component operatively connected to the clock grid ~~at the at least one point~~ receives a signal from the clock driver at via the at least one point, where the signal ~~at the at least one point~~ received by the component has less skew than if the at least one point was positioned at an exterior region of the clock grid.
7. (Previously Presented) The computer system of claim 5, wherein the transmission structure has a wire tree configuration.

8. (Previously Presented) The computer system of claim 7, wherein the wire tree configuration is balanced.
9. (Currently Amended) A method for reducing clock skew, comprising:
 - sending a clock signal from a clock driver to a first component through a connection point on a clock grid, wherein the clock driver resides outside a region of the clock grid; and
 - sending the clock signal from the clock driver to a second component through the connection point,
 - wherein the clock signal is directly propagated from an output of the clock driver ~~past an exterior region of the clock grid~~ to the connection point without any connection to an exterior region of the clock grid, and
 - wherein the connection point is at a non-exterior region of the clock grid.
10. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 9, wherein the clock signal received by the first component and the second component has less skew than if the connection point was at an edge of the clock grid.

11-15. (Canceled)